## REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

## I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 3 and 4 are amended herein.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-4 are currently pending and under consideration in the present application.

## II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-4 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(E) AS BEING ANTICIPATED BY ADAMS ET AL. (US 6,122,421)

The present invention as recited in claim 1 (as amended herein), for example, relates to an optical demultiplexer comprising "a first reflecting and transmitting device...to reflect light having a specified wavelength and to transmit light having a wavelength other than the specified wavelength so as to demultiplex the wavelength light from the multiplexed light."

Adams discloses a programmable and latchable device for wavelength shifting and chromatic dispersion compensating. In FIG. 8, Adams discloses a system where a DCM 82 comprises an optical circulator 73, a length of dispersion compensating fiber (DCF) 85, and a single tunable dispersion compensating chirped fiber grating 10g. The majority of the chromatic dispersion compensation is performed by the DCF 85. The remaining chromatic dispersion in each channel, due to a dispersion slope mismatch between the ideal compensator and the DCF, is compensated using the compensating chirped grating 10g. See column 8, lines 1-21.

However, the teachings of Adams do not disclose the present claimed invention. Moreover, Adam uses two units (i.e., the DCF 85 and the fiber grating 10g) to perform the single function of dispersion compensation. In the present invention, the first reflecting and transmitting device reflects light having a specified wavelength and transmits light having a wavelength other than the specified wavelength in order to demultiplex the wavelength light from multiplexed light (see claim 1). Thus, the claimed optical demultiplexer can perform the function of demultiplexing and dispersion compensation via the first reflecting and transmitting device.

It is respectfully submitted that Adams does not disclose or suggest the features recited in claim 1 of the present invention.

Similar to claim 1, claim 3 relates to an optical demultiplexer comprising "an optical filter...to reflect light having a specified wavelength and to transmit light having a wavelength other than the specified wavelength so as to demultiplex the wavelength light from the multiplexed light," which distinguishes over the teachings of Adams.

Claim 4 relates to an optical demultiplexer comprising "a filtering unit...to reflect light having a specified wavelength and to transmit light having a wavelength other than the specified wavelength, said light having the specified wavelength being reflected through the dispersion compensator to pass through the dispersion compensator at least two times," which distinguishes over the teachings of Adams.

Claim 2 depends from claim 1. Thus, for at least the reasons that claim 1 distinguishes over the cited prior art, it is respectfully submitted that claim 2 also distinguishes over the cited prior art.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

## III. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that each of the claims patentably distinguishes over the prior art, and therefore defines allowable subject matter. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the rejection along with an indication of allowability of all pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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